

EXHIBIT A



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
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151-117-117 12/17/97 FISH & NEAVE

EXAMINER

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RECEIVED

DEC 17 1997

FISH & NEAVE - PATENT DEP
REFERRED TO P.D.T.

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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DATE MAILED:

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11-17-97
- ☒ This action is FINAL.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 D.C. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1, 5, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16-28, 30-92, 93-105, 107, 108, 110-122 and 124-167 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above, claim(s) 5, 26, 27, 45-60, 62, 74-76, 78, 81-91, 120, 121 and 139-158 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☒ Claim(s) 68-73, 77, 79 and 80 is/are allowed.
- ☐ Claim(s) 1, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16-25, 29, 30-44, 61, 63-67, 92, 93-105, 107, 108, 110-119, 122, 124, 138, 159-167 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☐ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

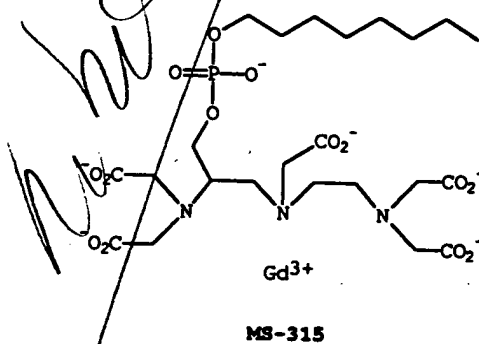
- ☐ Notice of Reference Cited, PTO-892
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 161 DOCKETED FOR 3/8/97
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

-SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES-

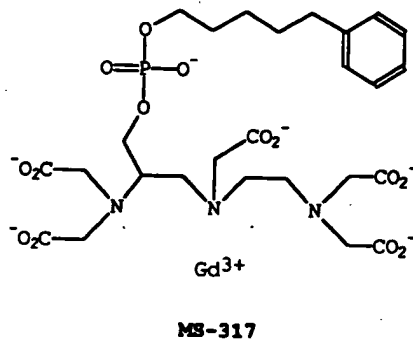
66. The contrast agent according to claim 61, wherein the PPBM has a log P contribution of at least 3.0.

67. The contrast agent according to claim 61, wherein the PPBM has a log P contribution of at least 4.0.

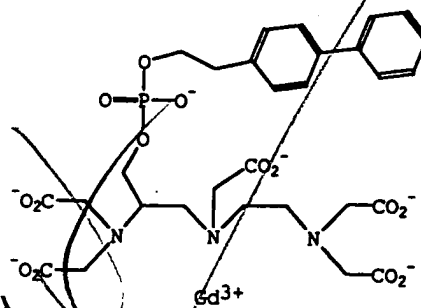
68. A diagnostic imaging contrast agent having the formula:



69. A diagnostic imaging contrast agent having the formula:

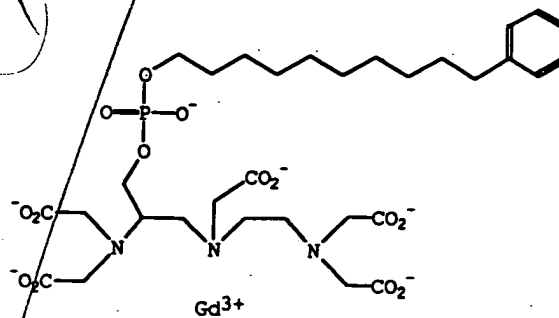


70. A diagnostic imaging contrast agent having the formula:



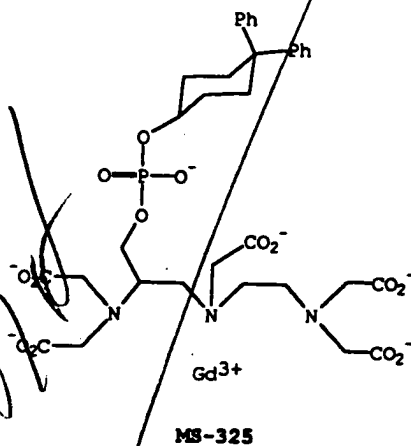
MS-322

71. A diagnostic imaging contrast agent having the formula:

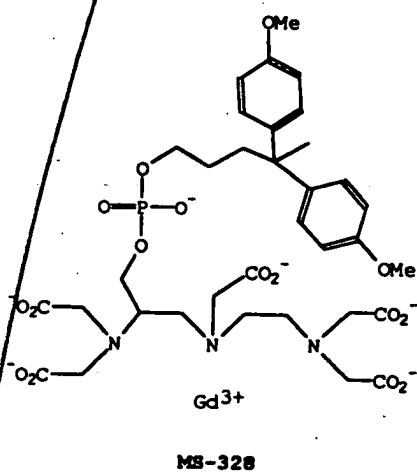


MS-323

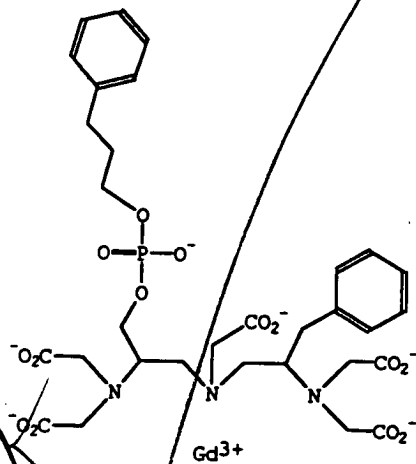
72. A diagnostic imaging contrast agent having the formula:



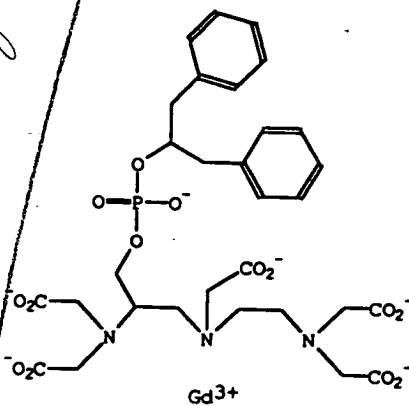
73. A diagnostic imaging contrast agent having the formula:



77. A diagnostic imaging contrast agent having the formula:

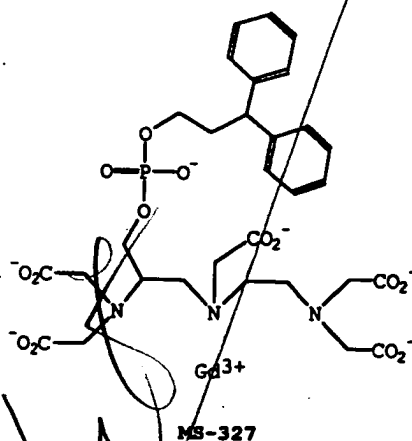


79. A diagnostic imaging contrast agent having the formula:



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80. A diagnostic imaging contrast agent having the formula:



92. A method for MRI imaging of biological components comprising the step of administering a diagnostically effective amount of a contrast agent according to any one of claims 1, 37, 45, 53 or 61.

97. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a contrast agent according to any one of claims 1, 37, 45, 53 or 61 and a carrier, adjuvant or vehicle.

98. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 97, further comprising a free organic ligand or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

99. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 97, further comprising a free organic ligand or calcium, sodium, meglumine or combination salts thereof.

100 A method of administering a contrast agent according to any one of claims 1, 37, 45, 53 or 61, comprising the steps of:

a) withdrawing a patient's blood into a syringe that contains the contrast agent;

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